

# Echoes of Excellence

News For Friends Of Philander Smith College

Spring 2002

## Lou Rawls And Rodney Slater Honored During 2002 Commencement Service

More than 2500 persons attended Commencement services May 11, 2002 at the Statehouse Convention Center to watch 127 Philander Smith College students receive their diplomas.

The Honorable Rodney Slater, former U. S. Secretary of Transportation, delivered the Commencement Address. Slater also was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

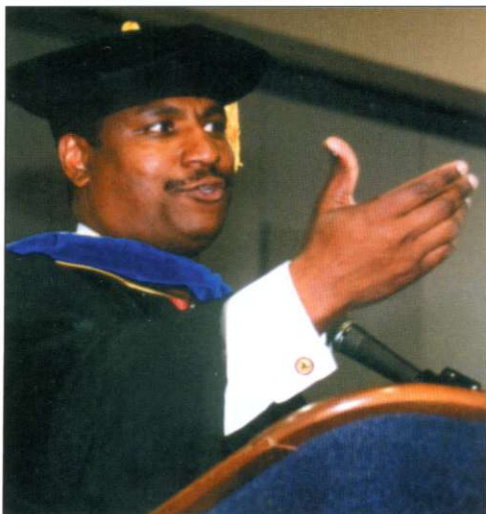
Noted performer Lou Rawls also received an Honorary Doctorate for his work with the United Negro College Fund. Rawls surprised the audience by performing a special song for PSC President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed.

"We are very honored and grateful to have such distinguished individuals as Dr. Lou Rawls and Dr. Rodney Slater as special guests for our 125th Commencement Service," said Reed.

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*Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed presents the honorary degree to Dr. Lou Rawls.*



*Dr. Rodney Slater delivers the 2002 Commencement Address.*



*Lawrence Hamilton performs with the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir.*



## Commencement 2002

(Continued from Page 1)

Mr. Oscar Hamilton was awarded a posthumous Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, which was received by his son, noted Broadway performer Lawrence Hamilton. Lawrence Hamilton lent his talents as well by performing with the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir.

Former PSC faculty member Dr. Georg Iggers also was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, which was received in absentia by his son Dr. Jeremy Iggers.

"It was gratifying to see a deserving former faculty member and an outstanding alumnus honored for their contributions to the College and the community," said Dr. Jesse Hargrove, Assistant Dean of Instruction and Chair of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Stephen W. Christian, Pastor of Bountiful Blessings Fellowship in Little Rock, provided the Baccalaureate Service Sermon and also provided a musical selection.

Honor graduate and President's Ambassador Terrell Starr and Senior Class President Melody Owens each spoke as part of the service. The senior class then presented a gift to Dr. Reed and the College in honor of the victims of the September 11 attack.



*The 2002 Graduating Class of Philander Smith College pose with the honorees.*



*Dr. Jeremy Iggers receives the honorary degree for his father Georg Iggers (left photo) and Dr. Stephen W. Christian delivers the Baccalaureate Sermon (right photo).*

## *A Message from The President*

*Dear Alumni and Friends of the College:*

*What a time for celebration at the great Philander Smith College! This year, Philander Smith College celebrates its 125th birthday. Our campus is exploding with excitement. We are pleased to be a part of a legacy that keeps the original dream alive. Today, we are so very thankful for increased resources from our alumni, foundations, and friends of the College. We rejoice over three new buildings: the Library/Technology Center, Kendall Mission Health Center, which will house the United Methodist Arkansas Conferences, and an inter-generational living/learning center. We also celebrate the high caliber of students, our dynamic and committed faculty and staff, and an inspired vision that will ensure vitality for another 125 plus years. PSC continues to liberate minds to bring about new realities and opportunities. As we celebrate our rich legacy, we must bear in mind that "change" is inevitable. Change facilitates both uncertainties as well as new expectations. PSC is in a growth phase where we can never return to the "good old days." We are now called forth to meet new challenges and opportunities with both hope and courage. During this great time of anticipation, it continues to be my joy to serve Philander Smith College. As I greet each new graduation class, I reflect over the progress and declare, "It is worth it all." May our celebration of 125 years inspire us to continue to support this great institution with our service, prayers and gifts. May we be reminded daily to thank God for our blessings and look to the future. As I embark upon my fifth year as president, I look forward to Building Traditions of Excellence!*

*Trudie Kibbe*

*Trudie Kibbe Reed, President*



*Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed*



# Capital Campaign Tops \$30 Million Goal

## *PSC Receives a \$500,000 Grant From Sturgis Charitable Trust*



Janet Ryan, Senior Vice President Bank of America/Dallas (left), and Cindy Miller, Sturgis Charitable Trust Representative of Little Rock (center), present a \$500,000 award to PSC President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed (right), from the Roy and Christine Sturgis Charitable Trust.

## **Award Announced at Press Conference**

"The \$500,000 award grant will be used to create the Roy and Christine Sturgis Faculty and Staff of Excellence Endowment," said PSC President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed, during a press conference May 23, 2002. The generous gift from the Sturgis Charitable Trust comes to Philander Smith College at a very critical time, Reed said. "It is very significant to the college as we build towards a stronger academic program through augmenting the salaries of our faculty and staff members," she added. The college's faculty and staff endowment has now grown to \$2.5 million. Reed also said that the Sturgis award will be matched by \$250,000 from the Bush Foundation, and that the College hopes to raise an additional \$7.5 million to allow salary adjustments that will mirror peer institutions.

The Sturgis Charitable Trust is managed by Bank of America in Dallas, TX. Roy Sturgis, a native of Kingsland, Arkansas, accumulated his wealth in the Arkansas timber industry. Upon his death, his wife Christine moved to Dallas where the Sturgis Charitable Trust was established after her death. Since 1985, approximately \$28 million have been given to various non-profit organizations and agencies.

## **\$30.5 Million Total Sets New Record**

During a brunch held in April to cap off the Capital Campaign and to recognize contributors, Philander Smith College President Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed announced that the campaign had reached its \$30 million goal and had topped all fund-raising records in the College's 125 year history. With the announcement a few weeks later of a new grant from the Stugis Charitable Trust, the total was raised to \$30.5 million for the campaign.

"I have simply been amazed to watch this campaign go from eight million to 12 million to 24 million, then 27 million and finally to \$30 million dollars, and to make the goal in less than three years," said Bill Bowen, Chair of the Capital Campaign.

Prior to 1998, the most ever raised by the College was \$3 million. The Capital Campaign breaking the school's fund-raising record, has been a significant part of reestablishing Philander Smith College's national reputation for academic excellence.

"This \$30 million success story is unprecedented in this College's history. It is a tribute to the leadership of the institution and the support of the wider community for its mission in higher education," said Dr. Stephen Schafer, Dean of Institutional Advancement.

## **PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED**

### **BY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUNDS:**

- *Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center*
- *Harry R. Kendall Science and Health Mission Center*
- *renovation of the old gymnasium*
- *endowment for the library from Rockefeller Trust*
- *endowment for the science building*
- *faculty and staff endowment*



During the brunch, Capital Campaign Chair Bill Bowen (left) receives an award from Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed, President, and Dr. Sherman Tate, Board of Trustees Chair.



# Presidential Gala Funds Scholarships; Katherine Mitchell Scholars Honored

More than 350 friends, alumni and supporters of Philander Smith College packed the ballroom of Little Rock's Embassy Suites Hotel the evening of February 15, 2002, for the first Presidential Gala in the school's history.

The event honored Dr. Katherine Phillips Mitchell for her many years of service to the educational community in Arkansas. An alumna of Philander Smith College, Dr. Mitchell has been a public school teacher, a college professor, a college division chair, and a college president. She currently serves her alma mater as Dean of Developmental Studies, and is chairperson of the Little Rock School Board.

Honored with Dr. Mitchell were fifteen high school seniors from throughout the State of Arkansas who were selected to receive the Dr. Katherine Phillips Mitchell Academic Excellence Award. These students were nominated by their high school counselors and chosen for this award because of their academic achievement to attend Philander Smith College.

"Bringing high achieving students to Philander Smith supports our overall theme of 'Building Traditions of Excellence,'" says Dr. Reed. "I hope we can make this an annual event to honor individuals who have demonstrated the values of leadership, service, and academic excellence for which Philander Smith College has always stood."

A Dr. Katherine Phillips Mitchell Endowed Scholarship Fund has been established to provide a source of funding for future scholarships to Philander Smith College. To make a tax-deductible donation to this fund, contact Dr. Stephen Schafer, Dean of Institutional Advancement, at (501) 370-5392.



*Photo by Jorden Davie*

*Dr. Trudie K. Reed (left) and Dr. Katherine Phillips Mitchell (center) pose with some of the 15 honorees following the First Annual Presidential Gala. The 15 Dr. Katherine Phillips Mitchell Scholars were: Morgan Armstrong, Camden; Cara Bowie, Camden; Malorie F. Carr, Little Rock; Myreon Coleman, Marianna; Aryye Davis, Norphlet; Challa Fletcher, Jacksonville; Angela D. Gibson, Little Rock; Kristi Shanta Hopson, Camden; Moniek Shuntell McIntyre, Camden; LeBaron Patrick Moten, Sherwood; Nikesha Nesbitt, Earle; Michael Scott, Jr., Eudora; John Spears, Pine Bluff; Raven Toney, Morrilton; Markita Watts, Camden.*



*Photo by Jorden Davie*

*Some of the guests watch as awards are presented during the Presidential Gala.*



# Homecoming 2002 Features Bonfire and Parade

The week-long celebration for Homecoming 2002 featured a multitude of activities for students, faculty, staff and alumni. Key events included a balloon release, a bonfire, an all Greek cook-out, a pep rally, and the Homecoming Parade followed by the Homecoming Game. Also featured during the week were seminars and guests lectures as well as a Gospel night and a Poetry Night.



## Wal-Mart's Coleman Peterson Speaks To PSC Students

Mr. Coleman Hollis Peterson, Wal-Mart's Executive Vice President, People Division, was the keynote speaker during the International Student Chapel Assembly. Peterson has worked for the Bentonville, Arkansas, retailer since 1984.

Members of the PSC International Student Organization participated in the program that highlighted the diversity of the student body.

In his address to the students, Peterson said that the single most important influence in his life was the education he received at a religiously affiliated, liberal arts College in Chicago, which stressed core values with the advantages of a sound liberal arts education.

"The emphasis on core values and a liberal arts education has done more to prepare me for the work I am doing today than any training school or program could have offered," said Peterson.

"And because I see Philander Smith College offering these same values and level of quality of liberal arts education, I am a supporter of the mission of this institution," he added.



Accompanied by Dr. Reed, Coleman Hollis Peterson is greeted by PSC's Dr. James Rush, following International Student Chapel Service.



# Annual Elijah Pitts Tourney raises funds for PSC



The 7th Annual Elijah Pitts Golf Tournament was rained out on the initial scheduled date of May 17th, but there was a great turn-out on the re-scheduled date of Friday, May 31st, and this time the weather cooperated.

The tournament at Rebsamen Golf Course fielded 22 teams and raised approximately \$25,000 for Philander Smith College.



*Tournament participants work together to line up a putt.*



*A lone golfer heads out on the course.*



*PSC Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Sherman Tate welcomes the players at the start of the tournament.*

## Taco Williams Wins 2002 Miss PSC Title

Taco Williams, a Senior at Philander Smith College, won the Miss PSC contest in April, competing with two other PSC students. She is originally from El Dorado, Arkansas but now calls Little Rock her home. Williams is a pre-med student and is a member of the Student Government Association and of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

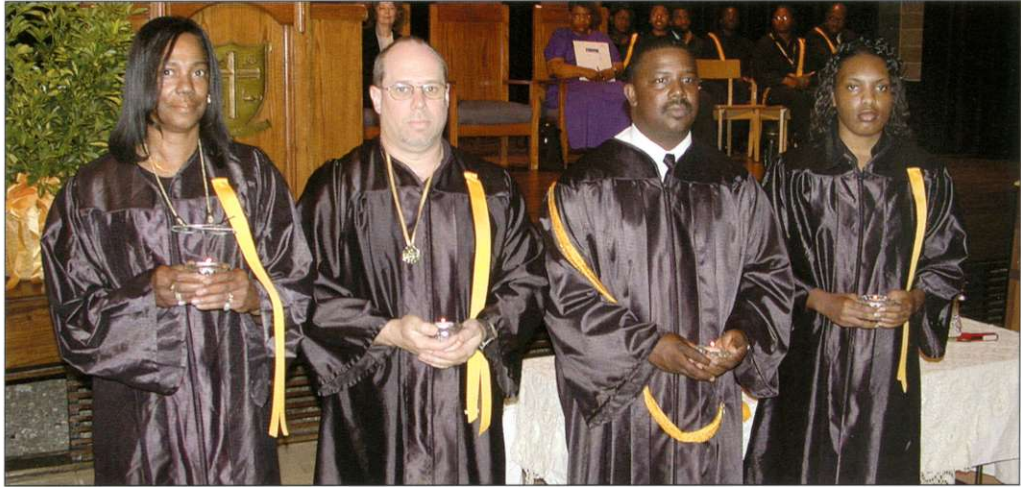




## EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

### Students Inducted into Honor Society

Four PSC students were inducted into the Pi Sigma Kappa Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society in a candlelight ceremony during spring Honors Convocation. Pictured are (from left) Dorothy Davis, Warren Hatfield, Arzo Johnson and Brady Marks. Students who made the Dean's List and students named as 4.0 Scholars also received awards during the ceremony.



### Alumni Convention 2002

Ms. Kathryn F. Worthen, President of the National Alumni Association, (right) presents the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award to Dr. Eulah L. Peterson (left) during the 47th Annual National Alumni Convention held in Little Rock, March 14-17. More than 200 alumni participated in the various activities over the four day convention that featured a fashion show during the alumni banquet.



Photo by Delia Moore

### President Reed Honored

PSC President Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed was honored as the Woman Of Distinction at the 17th Annual Florence Crittenton Services Tribute Dinner. The event raised \$153,000 for Florence Crittenton Services for unmarried and pregnant girls. Reed is the first African-American woman to be honored by Florence Crittenton Services. PSC Board Chair, Dr. Sherman Tate, was the master of ceremonies for the event, which featured a performance by the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir. The Rev. Janice Huie, Bishop of The United Methodist Church of Arkansas, Lt. Gov. Win Rockefeller and PSC Honor Graduate Terrell Starr all spoke in the salute to Reed.





# Construction Work Continues On New Library

The construction of the 50,000 square foot state-of-the-art Donald W. Reynolds Library and Technology Center is progressing on schedule with anticipated opening in January 2003.

In the photo at right is the main entrance on the east side with the brick and precast concrete work nearing completion. In the photo below is the second floor view of interior clerestory.



*"Echoes of Excellence" is published semi-annually with news from the Office of The President of Philander Smith College.*

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*BUILDING TRADITIONS OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1877*



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